

## WIMBORNE URBAN DISTRICT.

---

# Medical Officer of Health's Report, 1913.

---

### Area of District.

523 acres. Exclusive of water—507 acres.

### Population.

(Census 1911)—3,711. Estimated to middle of 1913—3,736.

### Social Conditions and Chief Occupations.

Chiefly residential. One Engineering Works employing 75 men.

### Poor Law Relief.

Poor Law Relief has gone down from £288 in 1912 to £245 in 1913—34 less.

Vagrants „ 6,683 „ „ 3,946 „ 2,737 fewer.

Average daily number of inmates in Workhouse, from Wimborne—16.5.

Outside—51.5. Total daily average—68.

### Gratuitous Medical Relief.

The Cottage Hospital, in 1913, admitted 55 Patients from Wimborne and 106 from outside. Total—161. There were 6 deaths. Of these, 3 occurred within 24 hours after admission.

### The Water Supply.

The Water Supply is of good quality and sufficient. About 500 houses are supplied by the Wimborne Water Co. from an Artesian Well. The rest of the town from Wells of various depths.

### Rivers and Streams.

The Stour and Allen. There is no pollution.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

There are two main sewers, which convey the surface and waste waters, also the effluents from the Cesspools after filtration through gravel tanks, into the River Stour.

### Closet Accomodation.

Generally earth closets, about 900. The larger houses have water closets.

## Scavenging.

This is done twice a week, the refuse being conveyed to deposit grounds. No destructor. All stable manure and garbage have to be removed at least twice a week or kept in proper receptacles.

## Sanitary Inspections of District.

No record kept.

## Premises Controllable by Bye-Laws.

Two Common Lodging-houses. One of these is satisfactory, the other not. No cellar dwellings or offensive trades.

## Schools.

Three. Sanitary condition good. Water supply from Water Company.

## Milk Supply.

The quality of Milk appears to be satisfactory, but there is no bacteriological examination made.

## Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 7 Milksellers on the register (5 within and 2 from outside) all satisfactory. There is one Cowshed. In this the regulations were not observed and notice was given the owner to that effect.

## Bake-houses.

There are 12 Bake-houses. With 5 exceptions (which have since been remedied), they were all satisfactory.

## Slaughter-houses.

Five. All of these were notified that they were not in accordance with the Bye-Laws. The owners promptly and at considerable expense, put them into excellent condition.

## Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The following is a statement of the samples taken for analysis during 1913. Formal—Butter 1, Cream 1, Tea 1, Oatmeal 2, all genuine. Informal—Liniment of Iodine 1, Gregory's Powder 1, Peroxide of Hydrogen 1, Sulphate of Magnesium 1, all genuine.

## Housing.

About 20 houses were inspected, only minor defects were found, these were remedied without formal notices. There is no overcrowding. There is a sufficiency, except of those about 6/- per week, and of these 10 are urgently needed. Building Bye-Laws are adopted. Under Section 17, Act 1909, 68 houses were inspected, 2 were found unfit for habitation. There were no closing orders. 2 were closed without closing orders, 1 was demolished. The majority of the 68 are still under consideration by the Council.

## Workshops and Workplaces.

The register is of little use, as it is not posted up.

## Sanitary Administration.

Inspector works under M.O.H., but the M.O.H. can get no returns of inspection or other work.



## Local and Adoptive Acts.

Public Health Acts, Amended Act 1890.

” ” ” ” ” 1907.  
” Part 2. Sections 15 to 25 and 27 to 33.  
” 3. ” 34 to 38 and 43 to 51.  
” 4.  
” 5.  
” 6.  
” 10.

Private Streets Works Act 1892.

Infectious Disease Notification Act 1889.

” ” Prevention Act 1890.

## Chemical Work.

Chemical Work is done by the Chemical Research Association.

## Bacteriological Work.

The L.A. pay for those in poor circumstances.

## Infectious Diseases.

There were two cases of Scarlet Fever, one of these was sent to the Blandford Isolation Hospital. There were also many cases of Measles and Mumps. Disinfection is carried out by means of Formalin Lamps.

## Tuberculosis.

These cases are visited and where required the means of disinfection is supplied.

## Prevention of Infantile Mortality.

A book of instruction is sent to the mother.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Population estimated to middle of 1913 ...	...	...	3,736
Birth Rate (per 1,000 inhabitants)...	...	...	18.7
Nett. Death Rate (per 1,000 inhabitants)...	...	...	13.6
Zymotic Death Rate (per 1,000 inhabitants)	...	...	0.26
Infantile Mortality (under 1 year per 1,000 births)	...	...	42.8
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	918

During 1913 there were 70 Births (18.7 per 1,000) and 51 Deaths (13.6 per 1,000), being an increase of 6 Births and 11 Deaths, compared with 1912. There were 2 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, and, considering the epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, which were all over the country, I consider we have been very fortunate in only having two cases of the former and none of the latter. A special endeavour was made to reduce the excessive number of loose heaps of stable manure and garbage. These are a source of danger, especially to children, owing to the flies which breed in them, conveying germs to the food, giving rise particularly to Diarrhoea and Sore Throats. Special attention was also given to Bake-houses and Slaughter-houses. Considerable improvements were carried out in them. In December, Dr. Mivart, the Local Government Inspector, spent a week in the town inspecting the sanitary arrangements. His report has not yet been received. He complained to me of the large number of earth closets in which there was an absence of mould, in fact, it was an exception to find one with it. Dry mould can always be had, by applying to the Sanitary Inspector.

W. AULD,

Medical Officer of Health.

